

plants above mentioned gradually give way to *trees* with *deciduous* leaves; rich meadows appear, abounding with *tender herbs*; the *epiphytal Orchideæ* are no longer met with, and are replaced by terrestrial fleshy-rooted species; *Mosses* clothe the trunks of aged trees; decayed vegetables are covered with parasitical *Fungi*; and the waters abound with *Confervæ*. Approaching the Poles, trees wholly disappear; *dicotyledonous* plants of all kinds become comparatively rare; and *Grasses* and *cryptogamic* plants constitute the chief features of the vegetation." *

Changes not very dissimilar are observed in the vegetation at different heights on the mountains of warm climates. Thus, at the base of the celebrated Peak of Teneriffe, the plants have all the distinguishing characters of the plants of Africa. There flourish the succulent *Euphorbia*, the *Mesembryanthema*, *Dracæna*, &c.: also the *Date palm*, the *Plantain*, the *Sugarcane*, and the *Indian-fig*. A little higher, grow the *Olive tree*, the *fruit trees* of Europe, the *Vine*, and *Wheat*. Then succeeds the woody region of the mountain; where from the numerous springs the ground is always verdant. In that region is seen a profusion of beautiful evergreens; such as various species of *Laurel*, one of *Oak*, two species of *Iron tree*, an *Arbutus*, and

* Lindley's Introduction to Botany, page 484.